

VZCZCXRO2049
RR RUEHDBU RUEHLN RUEHVK RUEHYG
DE RUEHKB #0482 1101406
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 201406Z APR 07
FM AMEMBASSY BAKU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 2858
INFO RUCNCIS/CIS COLLECTIVE
RUEHAK/AMEMBASSY ANKARA 2094
RUEHRO/AMEMBASSY ROME 0260
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA SZ 0270

UNCLAS BAKU 000482

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SENSITIVE

E.O. 12598: N/A

TAGS: ECON EAGR KFLU TBIO CASC AJ

SUBJECT: AZERBAIJAN: EVALUATION OF OUTBREAK COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES
IN COUNTRY AVIAN INFLUENZA PLANS: WHITE HOUSE MANDATED UPDATE

SENSITIVE BUT UNCLASSIFIED - NOT FOR INTERNET DISTRIBUTION.

REF: A) State 22991 B) Baku 331 C) State 46669

¶11. (U) Ref (A) was Department request that Embassy approach the GOAJ to enquire about the state of their influenza response plans. Ref (B) was Embassy Baku's response, detailing the GOAJ's development and exercising of a Avian and Pandemic Influenza Response Plan.

¶12. (U) In response to Ref (C) White House Mandated Update Request concerning Evaluation of Outbreak Communication Strategies in Country Avian Influenza Plans, Embassy notes that GOAJ's Action Plan on Avian Influenza contains a number of the avian influenza communication strategies. However, according to WHO, these strategies are not detailed and comprehensive enough to meet the WHO standards as enumerated in their September 2004 Report detailing best practices for communicating with the public during an outbreak. Additionally, UNICEF has submitted the draft AI National Communication Strategy Document to the GOAJ in May of 2006, but as yet has received no response from the GOAJ.

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